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Viewing cable 08OSLO406, NORWAY'S DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENSE, ESPEN BARTH EIDE, POWER IN NORWAY'S MOD AND RISING STAR IN THE LABOR PARTY

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#08OSLO406**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
08OSLO406	2008-07-21 09:53	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Oslo

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.aftonbladet.se/nyheter/article8218467.ab>

VZCZCXYZ0001
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHNY #0406/01 2030953
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 210953Z JUL 08
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6923
INFO RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN 2443
RUEHHE/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI 7989
RUEHRK/AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK 0843
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 3289
RHMFISS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0291
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 000406

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/17/2018
TAGS: [CIA](#) [INRA](#) [INRO](#) [PGOV](#) [PINR](#) [PREL](#) [NO](#)
SUBJECT: NORWAY'S DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENSE, ESPEN BARTH EIDE, POWER IN NORWAY'S MOD AND RISING STAR IN THE LABOR PARTY

Classified By: Deputy Chief of Mission, Kevin M Johnson for reasons 1.4 b and d

- [1](#)1. (C) Summary. Ministry of Defense State Secretary, Espen Barth Eide is one of the more powerful politicians in the current GON despite his c
--Power Behind the Throne--
- [1](#)2. (C) Ideologically on the more conservative side of the Labor Party, Barth Eide is one of the most experienced and influential government fi
--Past Positions--
- [1](#)3. (C) His current position as deputy minister (or state secretary in the Norwegian term) is the second time he has held that rank. The first
--Interactions with the USG--
- [1](#)4. (C) In his relations with the Embassy, Barth Eide has been difficult to characterize. Barth Eide is a skilled and subtle interagency player
--Personal Ambitions--
- [1](#)5. (C) Barth Eide's interest in UN peacekeeping operations is obvious from his resume and he was rumored to be interested in the UN under-secr
[1](#)6. (C) Another interest for Barth Eide is the EU. He is a strong proponent of the EU and of the desirability for Norway to join. He is marrie